

Resource Specialists

Intent of Policy

The purpose of this policy is to specify the requirements for the District's resource specialist program.

Resource Specialist Defined

Resource Specialists shall be appropriately credentialed and provide instruction and services for those students whose needs have been identified in an individualized education program ("IEP") developed by an IEP team and who are assigned to regular classroom teachers for a majority of a schoolday.

Role of Resource Specialists in District

In addition to providing special education instruction, resource specialists in the District shall perform each of the following:

1. Provide information and assistance to individuals with exceptional needs and their parents;
2. Provide consultation, resource information, and material regarding individuals with exceptional needs to their parents and to regular staff members;
3. Coordinate special education services with the regular school programs for each individual with exceptional needs enrolled in the resource specialist program;
4. Monitor student progress on a regular basis;
5. Participate in the review and revision of IEPs as appropriate; and
6. Refer any student who does not demonstrate appropriate progress to the student's IEP team.

Secondary Level Resource Specialists

At the secondary level, the resource specialist's services shall emphasize each of the following based on the individual needs of the student:

1. Academic achievement;
2. Career and vocational development; and
3. Preparation for adult life.

Program Director

The District's resource specialist program shall be under the direction of a resource specialist with the following credentials and experience:

1. Has either of the following credentials:
 - a. A special education teacher credential; or
 - b. A clinical services credential with a special class authorization;
2. Has three (3) or more years of teaching experience, including both regular and special education teaching experience, and
3. Has demonstrated the competencies for a resource specialist, as established by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

Resource Specialists Shall Not Be Assigned to Teach Regular Education Classes

Individuals employed in the District's resource specialist program shall not be simultaneously assigned to teach regular classes.

IEP Team Approval for Students Enrolled for Majority of Schoolday

A District student shall not be enrolled in the resource specialist program for the majority of his/her day without the approval of the student's IEP team. (Ed. Code §§ 56195.8, 56362.)